

**O**ne of the many advantages of training with a club in a class setting is that your dog is exposed to many different dogs and people in a group environment as well. Success depends on the efforts of all of us together! But, this introduces certain responsibilities.

## **READY, SET...**

1. In accordance with our insurance regulations, persons may not train without paying appropriate dues and/or fees. Due to zoning requirements, all dogs 13 weeks and older training at our facility must have a **valid Dog License and must be vaccinated again rabies** at an appropriate age as deemed by their veterinarian.
2. When someone requests to train a dog for problem behaviors, SDTC may require an evaluation by the training committee to make sure that group class is an appropriate training setting for the dog.
3. Cars must park on the gravel lot or on the street.
4. Handlers are expected to “potty” their dogs at home; however, if a dog must relieve itself after arriving at school, a doggie relief area is provided. It is the grass area to the left of the entrance walk and the grass area at the back of the building. When in doubt, ask someone. Use the equipment provided at the doggie relief site to clean up after your dog. **You must always clean up after your dog.**
5. Bitches in season must have sanitary protection and may not attend the Beginner or Manners & More classes.
6. Dogs that are ill or have fleas should be kept

at home for their own protection and that of other dogs. Owners should notify SDTC of the illness by emailing [training@suburban-dogtraining.com](mailto:training@suburban-dogtraining.com). Handlers may attend without the dog.

7. Handlers must wear low-heeled rubber soled shoes. Flip-flops and slide-in sandals are not acceptable. Anyone not wearing proper shoes will be excused for the evening. **This rule must be upheld not just for safety but also to comply with the requirements of our insurance policy.**
8. Proper training equipment includes a well-fitting approved collar and a woven or leather leash. Approved collars include flat buckle collars, choke collars, prong collars and Halti/Gentle Leader collars. Collars other than training collars should be removed during class. Unacceptable leashes include chain, plastic, cat leashes, clothesline and Flexis or other retractable leashes. Ask your instructor about the appropriate equipment for you and your dog.
9. Smoking is not permitted anywhere inside the building.
10. Visitors, including children, are welcome to observe training classes by prior arrangement and when accompanied by a club volunteer and must remain seated. Visitors or prospective members may not bring dogs to class without permission. Handlers and dogs must keep exits clear at all times.
11. In order to attend Open and Utility classes a dog must be physically sound enough to compete in AKC competition. To train in Open, a dog must be able to heel, come, and stay off leash. To train in Utility, a dog must be able to heel, stay, and come off leash, and must be able to retrieve reliably.

## **...TRAIN!**

1. Handlers must keep their dogs under control at all times. No dogs are to run loose. Keep your dog on lead while coming and going between the class and your car. Do stationary exercises on lead until your dog is steady enough not to make another dog break.
2. No dog socializing or playing in class, or anywhere in the building. Be aware of the effect you or your dog may have on others—seemingly innocent behavior can cause big problems. Friendly attempts to socialize may be perceived as threatening by a shy or territorial dog. Two dogs playing may get in the way of, or provoke, another dog.
3. Instructors are in charge and are responsible for keeping the class safe. This includes correcting dogs for dangerous behavior or behavior that will provoke actions by other dogs. Instructors may require the use of training equipment or precautions that will improve safety, including use of muzzle or not allowing a dog off-lead.
4. **Never** offer treats to someone else’s dog without asking permission.
5. Loud conversation and barking dogs are distracting and will not be tolerated. The instructor will help you keep your dog from barking. Keep conversation to a minimum during class so that others can hear the instructor.
6. Handlers and their dogs must stay clear of exits and doorways and other class areas.
7. Report dangerous or provocative behavior to your instructor or a Board member.

*EVENTS FOR MEMBERS  
THROUGHOUT  
THE YEAR*

- 🐾 Awards for Achievements
- 🐾 Plaques for Titles
- 🐾 Annual Banquet
- 🐾 Frequent Show-N-Go's
- 🐾 Special Training Classes & Seminars
- 🐾 Winter Holiday Party
- 🐾 Other Special Events and Activities
- 🐾 Visits and Demos to Schools and Retirement Facilities for Registered Therapy Dogs

[www.SuburbanDogTraining.com](http://www.SuburbanDogTraining.com)

# **PEOPLE COMMANDS**

**(SDTC RULES)**



*Suburban Dog Training Club  
is a member of the Pennsylvania  
Federation of Dog Clubs, Inc.*